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BOROUGH OF BACUP



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES
OF THE
BOROUGH OF BACUP

1957

H E A L T H C O M M I T T E E

1957 - 1958.

HIS WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR J. EDGE, J.P.

(ex-officio)

CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR A. LAMBERT (Dec'd 26.9.57.)

COUNCILLOR A. LORD, J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR T. C. LAW:

COMMITTEE:

Alderman F. Haworth, J.P.
Alderman W. Marshall, J.P.
Councillor J. H. Hargreaves.
Councillor J. Ireland.
Councillor R. Davies.
Councillor J. B. Walley.
Councillor T. E. East.
Councillor A. P. Beaumont.
Councillor Mrs. A. Rhodes, J.P.
Councillor J. Rushton.
Councillor S. G. Pollard.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

Medical Officer of Health	G. Fyfe, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector	R. Haworth, M.A.P.H.I.
Additional Public Health Inspectors	(14.4.57.) J. A. Lofthouse, M.A.P.H.I. (7.10.57.) G. R. Millington, M.A.P.H.I.
Pupil Public Health Inspectors	E. Sutcliffe. D. B. Shalliker.
Clerk	Mrs. M. Taylor.

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Stubbylee Hall,
BACUP,
Lancs.

July, 1958.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses
of the Borough of Bacup.

Mr. Mayor, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have indicated in the past that I had felt the need to alter the lay-out of my Annual Report. I have pleasure, therefore, in submitting in a new form, and for your approval, my report for 1957.

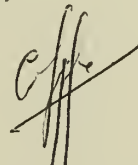
The changes are not drastic ones. Nevertheless, they will I believe fulfill my intention which is to present the facts, and my comments upon them in a way which is at once comprehensive and clear. The text of the report is presented in three sections dealing with vital statistics, with infectious diseases and with the general health services. So far as they are essential to the illustration of, and the argument in the text, certain figures are included in these sections. All other statistics are relegated to the various appendices which follow. The text, therefore, amounts to a continuation of this letter.

The section dealing with the general health services includes much which has already been reported, in greater detail, to the Divisional Health Committee, who are of course responsible for their provision. These matters are included in this report not only for your interest and information, but also - and this is to me a point of great importance - because of the impact of the environment upon the problems of general health, upon the efforts made to deal with these problems and upon the success or failure which attends these efforts. I would urge that this be borne constantly in mind.

My sincere thanks are again due to Mr. Haworth and the staff of the Health Department for their constant support.

In conclusion it is my pleasure once more to express my gratitude to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for the interest they have continued to show during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,



Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION I

VITAL STATISTICS

The most outstanding difference between the statistics for 1957 and those for the previous year is in the infant mortality rate. The rate for 1957 was 14, while that for 1956 was 40. While this fall will be noted with satisfaction, it is right to point out as I have done in the past, that working as we do with comparatively small numbers, it would be unwise to attach undue significance to these figures. The last quinquennial figure - given in Table V - is that of 30 for the five years 1950-1954. The corresponding figure for the years 1953-1957 is 29. These figures provide a more certain indication of the trend in infant mortality, and this continues happily to be downward. Here, therefore, are real if less spectacular grounds for satisfaction. Nationally a hard core of perinatal mortality is being reached and a most exhaustive survey is being conducted at the present time to ascertain the causes of these deaths and to determine methods whereby a continued reduction may be achieved. The infant mortality rate for England and Wales for 1957 was 23.

The principal causes of death in the community as a whole, as we have now come to expect, were Cardiovascular disease, (57%) Cancer, (14%) and Respiratory disease (14%), particularly Bronchitis. These are of course diseases of the older age groups among the population, and they represent in some measure the price which must be paid for the benefits bestowed on the young. As a result of these benefits, more people live to reach the age where the stress of living begins to show visibly its effect on the arteries, and where the impact of our climate, our polluted air and our addiction to tobacco begin to reveal their irritant and sometimes carcinogenic effects on the respiratory passages.

The increasing age structure of the population is not however the whole story. There seems little doubt that these causes of death are showing not only a relative but also an absolute increase, attributable no doubt to a similar absolute increase in the extent and amount of those same causal factors which I have mentioned in the preceding paragraph. See appendix A (Pages 9 - 12).

SECTION II

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Figures relating to the notified incidence of infectious diseases are to be found in Tables VI and VII. I will confine my comments here to four infections, one of which is not notifiable.

Tuberculosis: The mortality rate from respiratory tuberculosis has shown a steady - and in recent years increasing - decline since the beginning of the century. The local trend has been of a similar nature. There is no reason why this fall should not continue until such time as tuberculosis becomes an illness of minor importance. The requirements for this are constant vigilance, an extension of the modern frank and open attitude to the illness, selective X-ray surveys, health education and last but by no means least, good housing.

Poliomyelitis: No cases were notified during the year. The aspect of most immediate concern is of course vaccination and I cannot let the occasion pass without expressing my regret over the "ballyhoo" with which this valuable agent has had the misfortune to be surrounded. Nothing is certain under the sun. All that can be said about this immunising agent, as about many others which have in the past been accepted with equanimity, is that it is as safe as is reasonably human to expect, and that its acceptance will do more good than its refusal, whether it be British, American (tested in Britain) or American (untested in Britain).

German Measles: This virus disease is not notifiable. I include it, however, in order that I might mention again the association which exists between this illness occurring in women during the early months of pregnancy and the increased likelihood of a malformed child being born. The disease itself is a mild one in all but the weakest of children. Its occurrence in childhood particularly in girls at a time when it can do no harm is, therefore, a matter which parents should view not with alarm, but with some degree of relief.

Food Poisoning and Bacillary Dysentery: I have put these together because of the nature of my comment. The number of cases of either illness notified during 1957 was ONE. I just cannot believe this to be true. Admittedly they are normally mild and of short duration. Their nuisance value if an outbreak is allowed to spread can, however, be considerable. To my mind their notification is of even greater value as an indicator of the standard of hygiene which exists in the town. See Appendix B (pages 13 and 14).

SECTION III

GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES

The services to which this section relates are the primary responsibility of Divisional Health Committee No. 13, on which the Bacup Borough Council is represented. It would be wrong to consider the work of these two authorities separately and in fact only the closest integration of the services provided by the Borough on the one hand and the County Council on the other can achieve any outstanding measure of success. I have already referred to this aspect in my introductory letter.

The local health services include the following, some of which are the subject of later comment.

Care of Mothers and Young Children

- ante-natal and post-natal clinics
- child welfare clinics
- day nurseries and child minders
- work with problem families

Midwifery
Home Nursing
Health Visiting
Immunisation and Vaccination
Ambulance Service
Prevention Care and After-Care

- health education
- convalescence
- tuberculosis control
- mental health

Home Help Service
Welfare Services

Ante-natal clinics: These provide one means whereby perinatal and infant mortality may be reduced. The aim is to provide a service complementary to that provided by general practitioners and hospital clinics, so that constant advice and supervision is available and the early detection of abnormalities is made more likely. It is the wish of the clinic staff to instruct women in such matters as health during pregnancy, childbirth and the care of the new-born. This has been made difficult by the present premises used as a clinic. More pleasant and suitable premises will I hope soon be available. While attendances have been good, it will give much satisfaction if the new clinic comes to be regarded as a place with much to offer to all expectant mothers regardless of what other arrangements have concurrently been made.

Child welfare clinics: The number of attendances was the highest on record and reached the 4000 mark for the first time. The increased use of the clinic by children in the 1-2 age group was well maintained, but there was a slight falling off in its use by the 2-4 group. I am anxious to increase the attendance by older children, if only to be satisfied that their mothers and fathers are still sufficiently interested in their future and well-being and development to wish to seek advice and to discuss problems which must constantly arise at such a time.

Health visiting: I had hoped that the shortage of health visitors so far as this affected Bacup had been overcome. Unfortunately, it has been necessary to reduce the number to two. Under ideal circumstances four visitors are necessary for the amount of work requiring to be done, and

this present and it is to be hoped temporary reduction, confines our efforts largely to immediate essentials.

Vaccination and Immunisation: This has already been mentioned in Section II. I would add here that the number of children who received diphtheria immunisation was well maintained, while the number under the age of one year who were protected continued to increase. In recent years the numbers have been;

	<u>0 - 15</u>	<u>0 - 1</u>
1953	187	81 (43%)
1954	283	55 (19%)
1955	211	47 (22%)
1956	215	101 (47%)
1957	208	138 (66%)

Home Help Service: It has now become extremely difficult, because of the recruitment problem to increase the amount of home help provided. Out of the 134 families assisted in this way, all but three were in cases of chronic sickness or old age. I am certain that such proportions as these were not the original intention, and I am equally convinced that many "younger families" could profit by this type of help if only for a few days at a time.

Detailed information about sessions held at Bacup Clinic and about divisional staff together with statistics relating to the services mentioned in this section will be found in Appendix C (pages 15 - 18).

APPENDIX A

VITAL STATISTICS AND CAUSES OF DEATH

TABLE I

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS - 1957.

Area (Acres)				6,121
Population (Estimated mid-1957)				18,070
Population (Census 1951)				18,374
Number of Inhabited Houses (1931)				5,964
Number of Inhabited Houses (1957)				6,736
Rateable Value				£134,041
Sum represented by a penny rate				£507
	Male	Female	Total	
LIVE BIRTHS				
Legitimate	142	133	275	
Illegitimate	10	10	20	
	—	—	—	
	152	143	295	Birth Rate (Crude) per 1,000 estimated population ... 16.3 (16.3)
	—	—	—	
STILLBIRTHS	8	4	12	Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths ... 39 (36)
DEATHS	142	129	271	Death Rate (Crude) per 1,000 estimated population ... 15.0 (15.3)
DEATHS FROM MATERNAL CAUSES				
Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion				1
Maternal Mortality Rate				3.4 (Nil)
INFANT MORTALITY				
Deaths of infants under one year of age :-				
	Male	Female	Total	
	1	3	4	
Death rate of infants under one year of age :-				
All infants per 1,000 live births				14 (40)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births				10
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births				50
DEATHS FROM CERTAIN SPECIFIED DISEASES				
	Deaths		Rate per 1,000 of population	
Cardio-Vascular Diseases	153		8.4	
Cancer	39		2.1	
Tuberculosis	3		0.17	
Bronchitis	21		1.17	
Other Respiratory Diseases	13		0.7	

Note: Figures in parentheses refer to the year 1956.

TABLE II

REGISTER GENERAL'S RETURN
FOR THE YEAR 1957.

CAUSES OF DEATH

GROUP CAUSES OF DEATH	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Tuberculosis Respiratory	2	0	2
Tuberculosis other forms	1	0	1
Syphilitic disease	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Meningococcal infections	0	0	0
Acute poliomyelitis	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0
Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	0	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	7	3	10
Malignant neoplasm, lung and bronchus	5	3	8
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	5	5
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	0	0
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	12	4	16
Leukaemia and aleukaemia	1	0	1
Diabetes	1	3	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system	18	22	40
Coronary disease, angina	14	9	23
Hypertension with heart disease	3	6	9
Other heart diseases	29	41	70
Other circulatory diseases	5	6	11
Influenza	2	1	3
Pneumonia	3	5	8
Bronchitis	16	5	21
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	0	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	0	4
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	0	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	0	1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	0	1
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	0	1	1
Congenital malformations	0	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	9	16
Motor vehicle accidents	1	0	1
All other accidents	6	4	10
Suicide	1	0	1
Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0
ALL CAUSES	142	129	271

TABLE III
INFANTILE MORTALITY - 1957.

Cause of death	Under 1 month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Total under 1 year
Pneumonia (Broncho)								1					1
Congenital heart disease		1											1
Gross prematurity	1												1
Cerebral haemorrhage	1												1
	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	4

TABLE IV
NEO-NATAL MORTALITY - 1957.

Cause of death	Under 1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days	5 days	6 days	7 to 13 days	14 to 20 days	Total
Gross prematurity	1								1
Cerebral haemorrhage	1								1
	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

TABLE V.

MEAN RATES FOR THE PAST FIFTY YEARS.

BACUP M.B. VITAL STATISTICS

MEAN OF 5 YEARS	PER 1,000 OF ESTIMATED POPULATION					MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE		INFANT MORTALITY RATE	
	Live Birth-rate	Crude Death-rate	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death-rate from Cancer	Per 1,000 live births	Per 1,000 total (live and stillbirths)	Rates of deaths under one year per 1,000 live births	Bacup	Administrative County
1900-1904	23.5	17.6	0.96	0.65	-	-	146	119	
1905-1909	21.3	15.4	0.82	0.48	-	-	119	98	
1910-1914	19.1	16.3	0.95	0.69	-	-	112	97	
1915-1919	14.4	16.9	0.79	1.11	6.32	-	109	89	
1920-1924	19.2	14.2	0.69	1.02	4.34	-	84	70	
1925-1929	15.7	16.1	0.61	1.27	6.74	-	88	66	
1930-1934	14.6	14.2	0.56	1.15	3.87	3.70	61	61	
1935-1939	13.2	15.5	0.64	1.91	6.12	5.74	61	52	
1940-1944	14.9	14.8	0.46	1.93	2.24	2.15	46	46	
1945-1949	18.6	14.1	0.40	1.70	2.41	2.34	45	41	
1950-1954	16.18	14.98	0.16	2.28	1.44	1.41	30	32	
Year 1955	16.1	14.5	0.05	2.08	NIL	NIL	27	24	
Year 1956	16.3	15.3	0.21	2.08	NIL	NIL	40	23	
Year 1957	16.3	15.0	0.17	2.10	3.4	3.26	14	23	

APPENDIX B

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

TABLE VI

Cases notified and deaths from Tuberculosis during 1957.

Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-
10-15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-20	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-25	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-35	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-45	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-55	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
55-65	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 and over	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	13	6	2	2	2	0	0	1
	19		4		2		1	

TABLE VII

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Excluding Tuberculosis)

NO. OF CASES NOTIFIED													
	Total Cases all Ages	AGE PERIODS - YEARS											
		Un'r 1	1- 2	2- 3	3- 4	4- 5	5- 10	10- 15	15- 20	20- 35	35- 45	45- 65	65 and over
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	10	1	-	1	2	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	88	3	12	15	13	14	30	1	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	36	7	5	3	5	3	13	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	13	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	3	3	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Polio- myelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Polio Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gastro Enteritis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	148	11	17	20	20	19	48	2	0	2	3	3	3

APPENDIX C

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Clinic Sessions at the School Clinic, Rochdale Road, Bacup.

	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.
Minor Ailments	9-10.30 a.m.	9-10.30 a.m.	9-10.30 a.m.	9-10.30 a.m.	9-10.30a.m.
Eye Clinic	2-4 p.m. (every second week only)	-	-	-	-
Dental Clinic	9-12 noon	9-12 noon	-	9-12 noon	9-12 noon
Immunisation & Vaccination	-	-	10.30 a.m.	-	-
Child Welfare Clinic	-	-	2-4 p.m.	-	-
Ante-natal and Post natal Clinics	-	-	-	-	2-4 p.m.

Divisional Health Staff - Bacup Area

Assistant Divisional Medical Officer	Dr. M. A. Feeny, School Clinic, Rochdale Road, Bacup, Tel. Bacup 65
Dental Officer	J. Barcroft, School Clinic, Rochdale Road, Bacup.
Health Visitors and School Nurses	Miss D. Guest. Miss M. Dent.
Tuberculosis Health Visitor	Mrs. M. E. Schofield, Rossendale General Hospital. Tel. Ross. 820
District Nurses	Miss D. L. Cummings, 33, Dale Street. Miss P. M. John, " " " Tel. Bacup 297 Mrs. J. Midgely, Belgrave House, Bankside Lane, Bacup.
Domiciliary Midwives	Miss D. M. Fox, 91, Bankside Lane. Mrs. M. Nicholson, 93, Bankside Lane. Tel. Bacup 349. Tel. Bacup 339.
Warden of Olive Hostel for Old People	Miss Sherry. Tel. Bacup 322.
Bacup Ambulance Station	Station Officer, J. A. Ashforth, Commercial St. Stacksteads. Tel. Bacup 728.
Home Help Organiser	Miss I. Crawford, Divisional Health Office, Rochdale. Tel. Rochdale 48231
Divisional Welfare Officer	Mr. J. H. Todd, Divisional Health Office, Rochdale. Tel. Rochdale 48231
Duly Authorised Officer	Mr. E. B. Williams, Divisional Health Office, Rochdale. Tel. Rochdale 48231 (Outside office hours Tel. Oldham Main 5488)
Mental Health Worker	Miss J. R. Lambert, Divisional Health Office, Rochdale. Tel. Rochdale 48231

TABLE VIII

ATTENDANCES AT BACUP ANTE-NATAL CLINIC DURING 1957

Number of sessions during year	Number of individual women attending during year	Number of attendances at sessions conducted by :-			
		Consultants	A.D.M.O's.	Midwives, Health Visitors, etc.	Total
47	149	-	259	202	461

TABLE IX

WORK CARRIED OUT BY
L.C.C. MIDWIVES IN BACUP AREA DURING 1957

No. of Mid-wives	Total live and still births and miscarriages attended		Cases in which analgesia administered	Visits Paid				Total
	As Midwife	As maternity nurse		Ante-natal	Deli-very	Puer-perium	Post-natal	
2	138	10	99	478	347	2251	-	3076

TABLE X

ATTENDANCES AT BACUP CHILD WELFARE CENTRE
ALL SESSIONS (INCLUDING DOCTOR'S SESSIONS)

Year	No. of sessions during year	Number of individual children attending at ages				Number of attendances by children at ages			
		Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-4 years	Total	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-4 years	Total
1953	52	297	44	125	466	2912	478	549	3939
1954	52	149	154	190	493	2677	584	583	3844
1955	51	168	143	214	525	2411	472	638	3521
1956	51	164	137	206	507	2346	482	701	3529
1957	51	165	161	192	518	2868	577	558	4003

TABLE XI

WORK CARRIED OUT BY HEALTH VISITORS IN BACUP

Year	Number of individual visits	Number of homes visited	Number of school clinics attended	Number of M. & C.W. sessions attended	Number of other sessions attended
1953	6565	3854	164	108	84
1954	5392	1389	186	123	223
1955	5547	1307	201	140	134
1956	3501	1036	323	162	65
1957	4418	1168	289	166	54

TABLE XII

NUMBER OF DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATIONS PERFORMED IN BACUP

Number of individuals who completed a full course of primary immunisation										Reinforcement injections			
Year	Age at final injection (years)									Age group			
	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	Total under 5	5-	10-	Total 5-14	0-	5-	10-	Total 0-14 yrs.
1953	81	58	10	6	9	164	17	6	23	59	259	166	484
1954	55	87	65	11	15	233	29	21	50	64	15	385	464
1955	47	57	37	16	10	167	38	6	44	51	165	138	354
1956	101	48	21	6	8	184	20	11	31	64	215	149	428
1957	138	33	11	1	5	188	14	6	20	42	164	108	314

TABLE XIII

NUMBER OF SMALLPOX VACCINATIONS PERFORMED IN BACUP

PRIMARY VACCINATIONS						RE-VACCINATIONS				
Age in years						Age in years				
Year	Under 1	1-	5-	15-	Total	Under 1	1-	5-	15-	Total
1953	44	25	29	81	179	1	3	31	222	257
1954	35	13	1	9	58	-	-	-	27	27
1955	56	22	3	1	82	-	-	1	39	40
1956	44	17	15	3	79	-	-	-	43	43
1957	51	13	2	8	74	-	1	4	53	58

TABLE XIV

WORK CARRIED OUT BY DISTRICT NURSES IN BACUP, 1957

On Books 31st Dec. 1956	Cases attended		Remaining on books 31st Dec. 1957	Visits paid		Total
	New cases attended 1957	Cases completed 1957		Routine	Casual	
88	409	390	107	14,225	138	14,363

TABLE XV

NUMBER OF FAMILIES ASSISTED BY HOME HELPS IN BACUP, 1957

Type of Case	No.
Confinement at home	1
Confinement away from home	-
Tuberculosis	2
Chronic Sickness	96
Old Age and Infirmary	35
Total	134

TABLE XVI

WORK DONE BY THE STACKSTEADS (BACUP) AMBULANCE STATION, 1957

No. of Vehicles		Cases removed during 1957 and mileage involved			
Ambulances	Cars	Emergency cases	Non-Emergency cases	Total	
				Cases	Mileage
6	3	1,296	22,056	23,352	214,719

Public Health Department,
Stubbylee Hall,
BACUP.

July, 1958.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses
of the Borough of Bacup.

Mr. Mayor, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the report on the sanitary inspection and environmental conditions within the Borough for the year 1957.

One can hardly submit a report on this nature without making special reference to the housing conditions apertaining throughout the Borough, and whilst some progress was made during the year in respect of Slum Clearance, much still remains to be done. The difficult and hilly nature of the sites upon which the older houses are built together with financial costs make progress in this direction slow, but I am sure that everyone concerned would wish to see the general standard of housing conditions within the Borough improved as quickly as possible, and further action is anticipated in this direction.

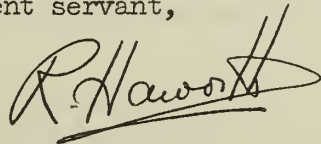
Duties connected with the inspection of meat, again called seriously upon the time of the available staff, but all the animals slaughtered within the Borough were inspected and appropriate action taken.

The problem of obtaining suitable and sufficient staff again formed quite a serious task, and the difficulties experienced proved quite considerable, and it was only after a seven months period of shortage that the vacancies arising were filled.

Routine inspections of the various premises were carried out as reported in the text of this report, and I take this opportunity of thanking the members of the Council, the Chairman of the Health Committee and all its members for their interest and support.

I also desire to thank the Medical Officer of Health for his guidance and advise, and the staff of the Health Department for their loyal and willing service, particularly during a period when staff shortage occurred.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Lady and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,



Chief Public Health Inspector.

SECTION IV

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Social Conditions

Chief Occupations. The shoe and slipper trade and cotton weaving and spinning provide the chief industry in the town which is mainly industrial in character. There is some light engineering, stone quarrying and coal mining which also gives employment to a number of people in the district and in addition a number of mills which manufacture felted materials.

The country is hilly and there are many scattered hill farms with small dairy herds.

(A) SANITARY INSPECTION OF AREA

Water Supply

The main supply of water to the town is satisfactory, being provided by the Borough of Bacup Water Undertaking and a large percentage of the domestic properties enjoy a supply of water which is wholly sufficient and excellent in quality.

The whole of the water supplied by this undertaking is filtered and chlorinated and is collected from the upland surface gathering ground and stored in three main reservoirs at Cragg, Cowpe and Sheephouse.

Thirty three samples of the town's water were taken during the year and submitted for bacteriological examination. Twenty nine proved satisfactory and four unsatisfactory.

Twenty samples were submitted for chemical analysis and twenty proved satisfactory.

The number of dwellinghouses supplied from the public mains is 6583.

River and Streams

The Mersey River Board is the controlling authority for the main river in the Borough and the Local Authority is responsible for the streams and the portion of the Irwell which joins on to the main river.

The River Irwell is used in connection with the Local Industries and widely used for trade effluents.

Public Cleansing

The household refuse collection service is maintained on a weekly basis from all houses in the town, and approximately 7,000 dustbins are emptied weekly by the three side loading freighters each manned by a driver and four loaders.

Refuse disposal is carried out by controlled tipping at the two tips at Sharneyford and Blackwood, and the Council have in operation a salvage scheme.

Street cleansing is carried out under the supervision of the Borough Surveyor, and gully emptying is done by modern mechanical means.

One hundred and fifteen pail closets are emptied each week.

Closet Accommodation

The closet accommodation in the Borough consists mainly of fresh water closets, there being approximately 4,684 of these, and gradual abolition of the waste water closets is encouraged by the grants made by the Health Committee in respect of conversions. Details of the closets other than fresh water closets are given in Table XVIII, Appendix D.

Many of the back-to-back type houses have joint W.C., accommodation and this type of house would be greatly improved if separate indoor sanitary accommodation could be provided.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

Hydrogen Cyanide is used in connection with the disinfection of household goods when transfers are made from infested property to Council houses, and others are treated with D.D.T. Solution and Spray.

These methods proved effectively particularly if a follow up spraying was performed and the advice given to tenants was acted upon.

Atmospheric Pollution

Little trouble was experienced during the year by atmospheric pollution from smoke.

Many of the local industries are using electrically driven machinery to a great extent and it would seem that this is already having its effect on the amount of atmospheric pollution by smoke from steam raising plants. Much still remains to be done with regard to the atmospheric pollution caused by domestic chimneys and smokeless fuels and improvement in the design of domestic fireplaces will no doubt aid progress in this direction.

Rag Flock

One licence was issued in respect of premises where Rag Flock is stored, whilst premises formerly used for the manufacture of Rag Flock was again not used.

The firm storing Rag Flock submitted many samples on their own account with satisfactory results.

Rodent Control

This work is carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the Council's sewers were treated on two occasions.

During the first treatment, carried out in May, 263 manholes were treated and 72 showed a prebait take, and as a result 209 poison baits were laid.

The second maintenance treatment carried out in November, necessitated the treatment of 249 manholes and 106 showed a prebait take.

In addition to this 15 business premises, 287 dwellinghouses and 66 local authority properties were treated.

Swimming Baths

The Council own and administer the Public Baths which are situated in the centre of the town.

The new modern filtration and chlorination plant which was installed

during 1950 has led to greatly improved conditions from a public health point of view, and the public no doubt have now excellent conditions for bathing.

Factories

The sanitary accommodation in most of the factories within the district is reasonable in standard as more firms are realising the necessity of modern conveniences and recognise this as one of the necessities for attracting labour.

Table XIX, Appendix D gives a summary of the inspections made and details of the results.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Many of the owners of small cottage property still complain bitterly that the rents received do not allow for the increased cost of building materials and labour, and the efforts required to enforce statutory notices and informal notices requiring repairs, remains a major problem in the department.

This problem is one which is not easy of solution and although no relaxation can be condoned, the economic difficulties of the owners of small cottage property obviously present themselves.

The statement in Table XVII, Appendix D, shows the number and nature of the inspections made.

(B) HOUSING

The hilly nature of the district has led in the past to the building of many back-to-back, back-to-land and basement dwellings, and the prevalence of such a large proportion of these types of houses, which to-day cannot generally speaking be regarded as of a satisfactory standard, has created a difficult problem. This problem is one which requires constant attention, and whilst every endeavour is made to keep the old houses weatherproof, and in a reasonable state of repair, the work done is often not sufficient to render the old houses in all respects fit for habitation. In addition, the lack of amenities in numerous back-to-back houses is a matter of serious concern.

The Council proceeded with the building of new houses, 24 being completed by the Local Authority and more houses will shortly be ready for occupation.

It is difficult to assess the extent of overcrowding in the Borough in the absence of a proper survey, but it is known that some overcrowding exists.

Table XX, Appendix D, gives details of the new houses provided and also the action taken with regard to unfit dwellinghouses.

The Health Committee saw fit to make Closing Orders in respect of houses which were unfit for habitation and are, therefore, getting rid of the worst living conditions in the Borough. In addition a number of Clearance Areas were declared and the properties demolished, and more areas are at present under consideration.

(C) INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION

Milk Supply

The responsibility for the supervision of farms and the production of milk having passed to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the main duty of the Local Authority was in connection with distributors of milk, and the registration of milk distributors, dairies or milk shops.

Food Hygiene

Routine visits were made during the year to the premises in the Borough where ice cream is manufactured and the 68 premises where ice cream is sold by retail only.

The bulk of the ice cream which is sold in the town is manufactured by persons who have premises outside the Borough and little difficulty was experienced with this commodity. Much of the ice cream sold is now prepacked.

There was one isolated case of food poisoning during the year and details of the food condemned and surrendered are given in Table XXII, Appendix D.

Slaughterhouses

The Local Authority granted licences in respect of three slaughterhouses within the Borough during 1957, and the three slaughterhouses now appear to be operating satisfactorily.

Meat Inspection

The operation of the three slaughterhouses above mentioned thrust a heavy burden on the Health Committee and the staff of the Health Department, as it is felt that 100% of the animals slaughtered should be inspected, and in addition the Committee feel that this inspection must be carried out at the time of slaughter in order to be effective.

Every endeavour, therefore, has been made to do this, and details of the animals slaughtered and the offals and meat condemned will be found in Table XXIII.

(D) GENERAL

Petroleum Acts and (Carbide of Calcium) Order.

The licensing of petroleum stores is a duty carried out by the Health Committee and 51 licences are at present in operation for the storage of petroleum spirit or mixture.

Two persons are licenced to keep carbide of calcium.

Hackney Carriages and Driving Licences

During the year 16 Hackney Carriage Licences were issued and 11 licences to drive Hackney Carriages.

Game Dealers Licences

Two licences to deal in game were renewed and issued.

Old Metal Dealers

Two licences were issued to dealers in old metal.

APPENDIX D

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

SANITARY INSPECTION

TABLE XVII

(1) INSPECTION OF DWELLINGHOUSES

Total houses inspected under Public Health and Housing Acts	239
Total number of inspections made	300
Housing (Consolidation) Regulations	96
Visits after Infectious Diseases	8
Number of houses found to be not in all respects reasonably fit	239
Defects found	198
Defects remedied	284
Notices served (Preliminary)	132
Re-inspections re notices served	439
Visits to houses re Closing Orders	139
Visits to houses re Clearance Areas	166
Visits to houses re Demolition of Clearance Areas	118

(2) PREMISES CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS

Offensive Trades	3
Markets	10

(3) FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

Factories	11
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(4) MISCELLANEOUS

Rats and mice destruction	111
Shops	3
Drainage	83
Colour tests applied to drains	53
Visits re private water supplies	63
Ice cream shops	9
Food inspections	23
Petroleum stores inspected	34
Public mortuary	27
Public sanitary conveniences	82
Visits re conversion to closets	25
Visits re disinfection	9
Disinfestation of premises	17
Verminous premises	6
Interviews with owners	293
Cleansing visits	806
Old metal dealers	4
Aged and infirm people	16
Hackney carriages	3
Food shops	3
Milk shops	23
Housing applications	324
Visits re slaughterhouses	616
Slaughtermen's licences	27
Food preparing rooms	8
Visits re improvement grants	30
Pet animals act	11
Visits re national assistance act	6
Visits re game dealers	2
Smoke observations	13
Visits to boiler houses	6
Miscellaneous visits	659

TABLE XVIII

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Type of closet	Number in 1955	Number in 1956	Converted 1957	Number at end of 1957.
Pail Closets	115	115	1	114
Waste Water Closets	337	326	16	310
Privy Middens	3	3	0	3
Total number of closets excluding fresh water closets	455	444	17	427

TABLE XIX

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

1. INSPECTION FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISION AS TO HEALTH

Premises	Number on Register	NUMBER		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 can be enforced by Local Authorities	19	0	0	0
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	158	11	1	0
	177	11	1	0

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				
	Found	Remedied	Referred		Prosecutions
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences -					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	6	3	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	1	1	1	-	-
TOTAL	7	4	1	-	-

HOUSING STATISTICS

TABLE XX

(a) NUMBER OF NEW DWELLINGS PROVIDED IN BACUP DURING 1957.

(1)	By the Borough of Bacup	24
(2)	By other bodies and persons	<u>0</u>
		24

(b) UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :-

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	335
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	335
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations	96
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	96
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	96
(4)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for habitation	239

2. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices

	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority of their Officers	132
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :- .

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :-	
	(a) By owners	0
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

B. Proceedings under Public Health Act :-

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	239
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after the service of notices :-	
	(a) By owners	216
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	1

C.	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
	(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
	(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0
D.	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
	(1) Number of tenement of underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	11
	(2) Number of separate tenement or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit	0
4.	Housing Act, 1936, Part IV - Overcrowding :-	
A.	Number of new cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	0
B.	(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	0
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases (exact details of overcrowding - not known)	0
5.	Housing Act, 1949 :-	
	(1) Number of schemes submitted :-	
	(a) By private individuals	20
	(b) By Local Authority to the Ministry	1
	(2) Number of dwelling houses affected	24
B.	(1) Number of schemes finally approved	20
	(2) Number of dwelling houses affected	23
	(3) Number of additional separate dwellings provided	0

MILK SUPPLY

TABLE XXI

Supplementary Licences for Distribution of "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	5
Licences issued to Retail Distributors of "Pasteurised" Milk	4
Licences issued to Retail Distributors of "Sterilised" Milk	72

ANALYSIS OF MILK SAMPLES WHICH HAVE BEEN EXAMINED DURING THE YEAR

	No. of Sa'les	Methylene blue		T.B. Posi- tive	T.B. Nega- tive	No. of samples		% Un- satis- factory
		Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory			Satis- fac'y	Unsatis- factory	
Producers Retailers within the area (Raw Milk)	7	7	0	0	7	7	0	0%
Pasteurised	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%

TABLE XXII

UN SOUND FOOD CONDEMNED - 1957.

Whole Chicken	3 tins
Chicken	12 tins
Chicken Fillets	1 tin
Spam	3 tins
Chopped Pork	5 tins
Minced Beef Loaf	10 tins
Ham	20 tins
Luncheon Meat	9 tins
Corned Beef	27 tins
Pressed Beef	1 tin
Tongue	9 tins
Beef Casserole	1 tin
Stewed Steak	31 tins
Brislings	3 tins
Crab	1 tin
Tuna Fish	2 tins
Crawfish	1 tin
Sild-in-tomato	12 tins
Salmon	13 tins
Sausages	1 tin
Pilchards	20 tins
Sweet Corn	3 tins
Tomatoes	96 tins
Carrots	24 tins
Spaghetti	2 tins
Soup	86 tins
Maccaroni	1 tin
Beans	44 tins
Peas	162 tins
Damsons	12 tins
Apricots	5 tins
Apples	1 tin
Orange Juice	1 tin
Fruit Cocktail	7 tins
Pineapples	52 tins
Pears	29 tins
Oranges	8 tins
Peaches	14 tins
Raspberries	5 tins
Strawberries	6 tins
Prunes	10 tins
Gooseberries	3 tins
Grapefruit	14 tins
Black Treacle	2 tins
Strained Foods	13 tins
Condensed Milk	6 tins
Evaporated Milk	56 tins
Coffee	14 tins
Rice	6 tins
Miscellaneous foodstuffs	35 tins
Jam	23 jars
Mincemeat	6 jars
Salmon	17 lbs
Shrimps	3 packets
Cheese	141 packets
Shredded Wheat	6 packets

TOTAL ARTICLES

1098

TABLE XXIII

Details of animals slaughtered and meat and offals condemned.

ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED

Bulls	Steers	Cows	Heifers	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
9	294	99	289	51	2234	300	3276

DETAILS OF OFFAL CONDEMNED

Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Skirts	Spleens	Stomachs
30	52	13	84	3	8	5
Udders	Intestines	Fats	Plucks	Kidneys	Feet	Tails
5	3	7	24	10	4	11

CARCASE MEAT CONDEMNED

Whole Carcase Beef	...	3
Part Carcase Beef	...	1
Part Carcase Pork	...	1
Whole Carcase Mutton	...	4

Details of animals inspected and condemned :-

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number of animals killed	592	99	51	2234	300
Number inspected	592	99	51	2234	300
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	2	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	45	15	-	22	12
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than T.B.	7.6%	15.1%	0%	1.07%	4%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	1	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	22	9	-	-	9
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	4.05%	10.1%	0%	0%	3%

